

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7824

BILL NUMBER: SB 548

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 28, 2003

BILL AMENDED: Feb 27, 2003

SUBJECT: Emergency Medical Services.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Merritt

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill allows Public Safety Training Board members to appoint designees to represent them at board proceedings. It makes changes to permit the differentiation of intermediate and advanced levels of emergency medical technician certification in addition to the levels currently in use. The bill also establishes a detailed disciplinary process for offenses committed by certified individuals. The bill permits the collection of fees and exempts certain individuals. It creates the Emergency Medical Services Fund and requires that fees collected by the State Emergency Management Agency be deposited in the fund. The bill also provides for the regulation of emergency medical dispatch agencies and personnel.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill establishes a detailed disciplinary process for offenses committed by certified individuals. The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) expects the new process to decrease costs associated with hearings because they would no longer be required but may be requested upon notice of the Commission imposing disciplinary sanctions.

The SEMA reports that expenditures related to administering certification fees will be absorbed in the normal operating costs of the Commission and the Agency. Assuming those costs would be similar to a health or professional licensing board, the SEMA could incur costs for additional supplies. Additional expenses could include printing costs for applications and forms, and postage. The Professional Licensing Agency reports their cost associated with license and renewal forms is approximately \$190 per one thousand forms. Postage costs for the PLA are \$0.25 per license and \$0.34 per renewal.

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) The Commission would be allowed to establish license fees for individuals and businesses performing emergency medical services, emergency medical dispatchers, and emergency medical dispatcher agencies. However, as the bill is amended, volunteer providers will not be required to pay the license fee. According to the SEMA, there are 724 certified providers (ambulance and non-transport providers) and 17,068 other certified personnel. Of these, approximately 6,400 of the medics are thought to be volunteer, and the balance would be subject to paying emergency medical services certification fees under this bill. There are also 1,600 individuals and 180 dispatch centers that would be subject to the emergency medical dispatch certification fees under this bill.

The bill also establishes the Emergency Medical Services Fund, which will provide funds for defraying the cost of personal services, other operating, and capital expenses of the Commission and the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). The SEMA is to administer the Fund, and expenses of doing so are to be paid from the Fund. The source of revenue for this fund would be the certification fees. To the extent that the Emergency Medical Services Commission currently receives state General Fund dollars, expenditures of the state General Fund could be reduced.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Emergency Management Agency; Emergency Medical Services Commission.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Brad Gavin, State Emergency Management Agency, (317) 233-4928; State Personnel Table.

Fiscal Analyst: Valerie Ruda, 317-232-9867